



**Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council**

Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Māori Kai Sovereignty Wānanga for WCC

1 December 2021

Johnsonville Community Centre



Introduction

On the 1st December 2021 Papawhakaritorito Charitable Trust, led by Dr Jessica Hutchings, hosted a Māori Kai Sovereignty wānanga on behalf of the WCC to discuss Māori aspirations for kai sovereignty in Te Whanganui-a-tara. A total of 65 people expressed interest in attending the hui and approximately 50 people attended either in person at our Johnsonville venue, or via Zoom.

Who Attended?

We held the hui under COVID-19 Level 2 conditions. Organisations represented included Ngā Hau e Whā o Paparārangi, Te Runanga o Toa Rangatira, Epuro Hands, Para Kore, Kahungunu Whānau Services, Kore Hiakai Zero Hunger Collective, Te Roopu Awhina, Wesley Community Action, Kokiri Marae, Taita College, Seeds to Feeds, Owhiro Bay Community Garden, Te Kakano Marae, Wesley Waitangirua - recycling/sustainability, rejuvenation o Papatuanuku, Healthy Families Hutt, Massey University, Kaicycle, Rongoā and EnviroSchools practitioner, Pūtahi Innovations, BGI, GrowSpace Wellington and Growers of Wellington/Papa Taiao.



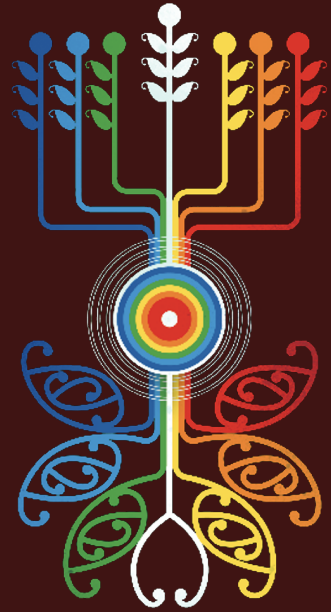


Māori Aspirations for Kai Sovereignty

Our discussion drew on the Hua Parakore framework, developed by Te Waka Kai Ora (National Māori Organics Authority) as outlined in the WCC action plan. Dr Hutchings opened our session and led our whakawhanaungatanga process to help set the kaupapa for the day. Dr Hutchings reminded us that while our kōrero is grounded in the realities of Te Whanganui-a-tara, our concerns link to national and international contexts with regard to food systems, food security and food sovereignty. Linking in via Zoom, Ngati Toa Rangatira Ashleigh Sagar then shared her kōrero on mana whenua priorities, key concerns and initiatives.

Group Work

After whakawhanaungatanga and the address from mana whenua, we organised into four groups (including a rangatahi group from Taita college and our Zoom cohort) to workshop the question “What are your aspirations for Māori kai sovereignty in Wellington city?” We then gathered as one group to share our thoughts and ideas. Our wānanga method was limited by the amount of time we had together (10-2.30pm in a non-Māori setting) and not all Māori Wellington-based food actors or organisations were represented. However, this was a significant gathering nonetheless as a wānanga of this nature has never been called before. The most powerful outcome of this gathering was the opportunity for whakawhanaungatanga with those interested in Māori kai initiatives in Wellington city. There was a resounding agreement that we need more of these gatherings to progress our aspirations. Below we note the high-level outcomes and potential strategic actions and priorities that emerged from our wānanga.



Hua Parakore Framework

High Level Outcomes Working Within the Hua Parakore Framing

Whakapapa

- Any work undertaken must acknowledge the authority of mana whenua and will operate under the understanding of Taura Here Māori working with and alongside the aspirations and experiences of mana whenua
- We work from the understanding that Te Upoko o te Ika a Mauri/Te Whanganui-a-tara have diverse whakapapa relations and have much intergenerational knowledge and experience to bring to any Kai Sovereignty initiative we may develop
- Any Kai Sovereignty initiative we may develop will make connections between peoples, places, ngā Atua and the natural environment, including the realm of Hine-ahu-one (soil). If we do not have our foundations in our Atua we will not be strong

Mana

- We will actively work to acknowledge and uplift the mana of mana whenua
- We will develop strategies to support and strengthen Māori leadership around Kai Sovereignty
- We will work to uplift the mana of ngā Atua in our food sovereignty practices

Mauri

- We will ensure our Māori Kai Sovereignty strategy enhances the mauri of te ao turoa (chemical and pesticide-free practices as the norm)

- Any Kai Sovereignty initiative should ensure that we heal and restore the mauri of tangata, whenua, awa, moana

Wairua

- That our ways of working enhance our wairuatanga as individuals and as a community
- Tikanga, te reo Māori and Kaupapa Māori in our processes ensure the flourishing of wairua

Te Ao Turoa

- Our Kai Sovereignty practices will privilege the interconnectedness of te ao Māori (both spiritual and physical)
- Any Kai Sovereignty initiative will acknowledge the importance of te ngāhere (the domain of Tane Mahuta) and our hunting and gathering food practices, including kaimoana gathering and fishing (in the realm of Tangaroa)

Maramatanga

- To grow our knowledge as Māori communities alongside mana whenua to support Māori ways of knowing, doing and being in our mahi kai practices
- To develop ways of bringing tauwiwi and Pākehā together to support, extend and enhance Māori kai sovereignty actions and aspirations

Our kōrero ended with an invitation to the group to offer a kupu Māori that was top of mind after our discussions. These words included:

- Kaihaukai
- mauri
- mātauranga
- ngāhere
- Hine Ahu One
- whakarongo
- manaaki
- whānau
- kia kaha
- whakapapa
- kaimoana
- whenua
- māra
- kai
- advocacy
- rangatiratanga
- manawa
- hapū
- tuhono
- kaitiaki
- Kai Atua
- Hua Parakore
- mahi kai
- wānanga
- ka mua
- ka muri
- whakarauora



Strategic Priorities

Moving Forward

1. To uphold the mana of **Te Ao Turoa** (the natural world)
2. To uphold the mana o **Te Tiriti o Waitangi** in the implementation of this action plan
3. To grow **Māori Mahi Kai** capacity and leadership in Te Whanganui-a-Tara including rangatahi leadership programmes and connections with mana whenua
4. To learn about **local cultural foodscapes** and opportunities for mahi kai
5. To establish a Māori-led **Hua Parakore urban food farm**
6. To **share information, pūrākau and experiences** about historical, current and future-oriented Kai Sovereignty practices
7. To **support existing initiatives** and showcase current success stories about Māori Kai Sovereignty in Te Whanganui-a-Tara

